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COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI 1966-1967

SUBJECT DEATH OF BRITISH CAPTIVE AT THE B.17 DETENTION CAMP
OF THE COSVN SECURITY SECTION

ACO VIETNAM, SAIGON 18 JUNE 1974

SOURCE

1
APPROVED FOR RELEASE

Date 20 AUG 1975

DIA #291

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1. IN LATE 1967, AN UNIDENTIFIED BRITISH COLONEL WAS SENTENCED TO DEATH BY THE B.17 DETENTION CAMP PARTY COMMITTEE, SECURITY SECTION, COSVN, BECAUSE HE HAD REFUSED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION DURING ONE YEAR OF INDOCTRINATION AND INTERROGATION. HE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY EXECUTED AND BURIED IN THE AREA OF THE B.17 DETENTION CAMP AT ABOUT XT012693 IN PHUOC AN VILLAGE, PHUOC NINH DISTRICT, TAY NINH PROVINCE. THE ENGLISHMAN AND TWO FEMALE COMPANIONS HAD BEEN CAPTURED BY THE VIET CONG (VC). ON AN AFTERNOON PROBABLY IN LATE 1966, WHILE RIDING IN AN OUTBOARD MOTORBOAT ON THE VAN CO DONG RIVER, PHUOC TAN VILLAGE, PHUOC NINH DISTRICT, TAY NINH PROVINCE. ONE OF THE WOMEN WAS LE LINH (LNU) AND THE OTHER, NAME UNKNOWN, WAS LE LINH'S SISTER. THE SISTERS HAD WORKED IN AN UNIDENTIFIED OFFICE

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IN SAIGON WITH THE ENGLISHMAN. AFTER BEING CAPTURED, ALL THREE WERE TAKEN TO THE B.17 DETENTION CAMP WHERE THEY WERE PUT INTO THREE SEPARATE TIGER CAGES. LE LINH WAS USED AS INTERPRETER DURING THE INTERROGATION OF THE ENGLISHMAN.

2. AFTER THE ENGLISHMAN WAS EXECUTED, LE LINH AGREED TO WORK FOR THE VC. SHE WAS ASSIGNED TO WORK ON THE INTERROGATIONS OF FOREIGN PRISONERS AT THE CAMP AS A TYPIST AND INTERPRETER. IN 1968, SHE MARRIED HAI M I N H, AN ADMINISTRATIVE AND INDOCTRINATION CADRE OF THE B.17 DETENTION CAMP, BECAUSE OF VC PRESSURE. IT WAS BELIEVED THAT SHE WOULD DESERT AND RETURN TO THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM IF POSSIBLE. HER SISTER, BORN CIRCA 1952, WAS RELEASED IN EARLY 1968 AND RETURNED TO SAIGON. BEFORE CAPTURE, THE SISTERS HAD LIVED WITH THEIR AUNT WHO WAS A WELL-TO-DO BUSINESSWOMAN IN SAIGON. THE SISTERS' MOTHER WAS CHINESE.

3. COMMENT: JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER (JCRC) EVALUATES THIS REPORT AS FOLLOWS: "THIS REPORT DEFINITELY CORRELATES WITH THE CASE OF MR. WILLIAM HENRY W A L L I S, BRITISH CIVILIAN (JCRC ACC, NO. 0324, REF. NO. 0056-0-01). MR. WALLIS AND TWO VIETNAMESE WOMEN, SISTERS OF CHINESE EXTRACTION NAMED TRAN BAO L I N H, AGE 15, AND TRAN LE L I N H, AGE 20, WERE RIDING IN A

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MOTORBOAT ALONG THE SAIGON RIVER ON 14 FEBRUARY 1965. MR. WALLIS, TURNED THE BOAT AROUND NEAR THE BINH LOI BRIDGE WITH THE INTENTION OF RETURNING TO SAIGON, AND THE BOAT RECEIVED SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM THE BANK OF THE RIVER WHICH CAUSED THE GAS TANK TO EXPLODE. THE BOAT WAS FORCED TO SHORE AND THE GROUP WAS CAPTURED BY THE VIET CONG. ON 21 SEPTEMBER, TRAN BAO LINH RETURNED TO SAIGON AFTER BEING RELEASED BY THE VIET CONG. ALTHOUGH THERE IS A DIFFERENCE OF SOME TWENTY MONTHS IN THE CAPTURE DATA, A POSITIVE CORRELATION CAN BE MADE BASED ON THE LOCATION OF INCIDENT, THE NAMES OF THE VIETNAMESE, AND THE AGE OF THE YOUNGER GIRL. THE VIET CONG COULD HAVE ASSUMED MR. WALLIS TO BE A 'COLONEL' IN VIEW OF HIS JOB AS SECURITY AGENT FOR RMK. MR. WALLIS IS CARRIED IN A CAPTURED STATUS.")

4. FIELD DISSEM: DEFENSE ATTACHE FOR JCRC REPRESENTATIVE IN SAIGON: SENT TO CINCPAC (FOR CINCPAC AND POLAD ONLY) USSAG AND

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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